

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**


Serial No.: 10/031,813 Group Art Unit: 1771
Applicant: Nigel Jeffrie RICKETTS et al. Examiner: # 6
Filing Date: October 26, 2001
Title: **COVER GASES**
Entity Status: Small Entity
Our Docket: RR-491 PCT/US

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (3 pages total) is being transmitted via facsimile number (703) ~~305-3599~~ on the date shown below to:

305-1086 Attn: Richard Fisher
Director, Group 1700
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on July ¹⁷~~16~~, 2002


Charles B. Rodman
Applicant's Attorney

Attn: Richard Fisher
Director, Group 1700
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(c)

Sir:

Applicant petitions to advance the examination of this application under 37 CFR 1.102(c) on the basis that the subject application will materially enhance the quality of the environment. It is believed that no fee is needed for a Petition filed on this basis. However, if any fee is necessary, please debit our Deposit Account No. 18-1743.

Applicant's invention relates to a cover gas for protecting molten magnesium/magnesium alloys. The cover gas composition comprises a fluorine containing inhibiting agent and a carrier gas. Each component of the cover gas composition has a Global Warming Potential (GWP), referenced to the absolute GWP for carbon dioxide at a time horizon of 100 years, of less than 5,000.

Prior art cover gases, such as sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6), which is currently the industry standard have many disadvantages. The sulphur based decomposition products of SF_6 at high temperature are very toxic. SF_6 is expensive, has limited sources of supply, and is one of the worst known greenhouse gases having a Global Warming Potential at a time horizon of 100 years of 23,900 relative to 1 for carbon dioxide.

Claim 1 recites as follows:

A cover gas composition for protecting molten magnesium/magnesium alloy, the composition including a fluorine containing inhibiting agent and a carrier gas, wherein each component of the composition has a Global Warming Potential (GWP) (referenced to the absolute GWP for carbon dioxide at a time horizon of 100 years) of less than 5000.

This application is a 35 USC § 371 filing of PCT International Application No. PCT/AU00/00393. The national phase U.S. application was

filed with a copy of the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report for the International PCT application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the examination of this application be advanced on a special basis in accordance with 37 CFR 1.102 (c).

Dated: July 16, 2002
Rodman & Rodman
7 South Broadway
White Plains, New York
Telephone: (914) 949-7210
Facsimile: (914) 993-0668

649-34

Respectfully submitted,



Charles B. Rodman
USPTO Reg. No. 26,798
Attorney for Applicant